

REMARKS

Claims 1-23 are pending in the application upon entry of the amendments. Claims 1, 6, 9, 13, 16, and 21-23 have been amended for consistency and to better describe certain aspects of the invention. Favorable reconsideration in light of the amendments and the remarks which follow is respectfully requested.

The Amendments

Claims 1, 9, and 16 have been amended to further disclaim the cited art.

Dependent claims 21-23 have been amended to describe an imaging system that further contains an LED illumination source and at least about 75% of light energy produced thereby has a certain wavelength range. Support exists in the specification, for example, at page 24, lines 2-13. Claim 6 has been amended to specify an illumination source. Support exists in the specification, for example, at page 23, line 29. Claim 13 has been amended to correct claim dependency.

The Allowable Subject Matter

The Examiner's indication that claims 5, 7, 8, 14, and 21-23 contain allowable subject matter is noted with appreciation. The subject matter of claims 21-23 has been inserted into independent claims 1, 9, and 16, respectively.

The Obviousness Rejections

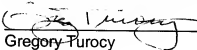
Claims 1-4, 6, and 16-20 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over Vock in view of Harris et al. Claims 9-13 and 15 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over Vock in view of Nagata et al. Since independent claims 1, 9, and 16 have been amended to further disclaim the cited art by including the subject matter of allowable claims 21-23 therein, these rejections are rendered moot.

Should the Examiner believe that a telephone interview would be helpful to expedite favorable prosecution, the Examiner is invited to contact Applicants' undersigned attorney at the telephone number listed below.

In the event any fees are due in connection with the filing of this document, the Commissioner is authorized to charge those fees to our Deposit Account No. 50-1063.

Respectfully submitted,

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